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Our Ref: LD/DLE/cc/Take care

30th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Do what is best for your child - and you

This is an anxious time for everyone and we certainly do not want to add to anyone's worries.

If you are a key worker who is working tirelessly to keep our country safe and keep our country going - thank you. And thank you to everyone who is slowing the spread of COVID-19 by social distancing at home with their children.

The most important point for everyone is this: We do not expect you to home-school your children. If you have the time and you want to have a go at following a structured school-like day with separate lessons then that is fine. What is also fine is encouraging your child to do what work they can by themselves. What is also fine is spending some time in the garden, taking longer over lunch than you may do usually, having in-depth conversations, reading, baking, exercising or watching a Netflix box set. Whatever you and your child like to do together - or separately - is fine.

We have provided extensive home learning materials to support you. Some children will find it comforting to get stuck into school work and will want to work their way through everything we have set, a piece at a time. Others may feel intimidated by what they see as a massive 'to do' list and will not know where to begin. We envision most children will be somewhere in between these two extremes and will just need some signposting to get started. That's why we have uploaded a short video to help with this and are encouraging your children to seek guidance from their teachers via Teams (instructions on our website) and e-mail.

Every week, we are asking teachers to nominate pupils who they know have been working the hardest. We will be giving House points to every pupil nominated and entering their names in a prize draw for vouchers, which they can use for online shopping. If you want to share with us what work your children are doing at home, you can tag us on Twitter @barrbeaconsch.

We will continue to keep our Working At Home page updated but please do not feel like you have to be constantly checking it. When we refresh the work, we will keep the previous versions on there so your child will not miss anything. And, if they feel like they are 'getting behind,' tell them not to worry: anything they have struggled to understand in this time away from school we can put right when we are all back in school.

Take it slowly. Take delight in everyday things. Take care of yourselves.

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Yours sincerely

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